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1-17-02

"PATENT"

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



APPLICANT: Jackson I. Ito, et al.

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EXAMINER: Unassigned

SERIAL NO.: 09/824,332

GROUP ART UNIT: 1764

FILED: April 2, 2001

ATTY. DOCKET NO.: MAC-0113

FOR: FLUID ATOMIZATION PROCESS

DATE: December 10, 2001

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with Title 37, Sections 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98 of the Code of Federal Regulations, and pursuant to Applicants' duty of candor and good faith toward the United States Patent and Trademark Office, the Examiner's attention is drawn to the art indicated on the attached PTO-1449 form.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed under 37 CFR 1.97(b)(3) prior to the mailing date of the first Office action on the merits.

Form PTO-1449 is attached to this paper listing documents submitted in the above-related case. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner consider these documents and return an initialed copy of each form to the attorney of record.

This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 09/735,779, filed December 13, 2000, which is a continuation of Serial Number 09/383,794, filed August 26, 1999, and these references were previously cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent Office in those applications. Accordingly, pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.98(d), copies of these documents are not provided herewith.

This disclosure statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no other material information, as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56(a), exists.

We believe that this disclosure complies with the requirements of 37 CFR § 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, and the Manual of Patent Examining Procedures § 609. If for any reason

the Examiner finds that the disclosure or documents do not comply with these sections, notification is respectfully requested.

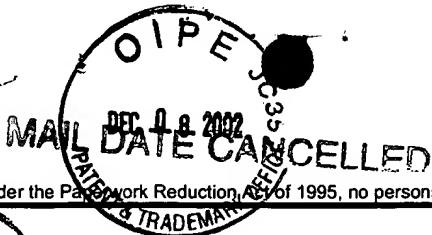
If there are any matters or issues outstanding, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the attorney of record at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted:



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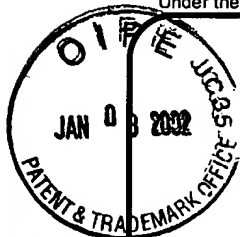


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PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
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TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Application Number	09/824,332
Filing Date	April 2, 2001
First Named Inventor	Jackson I. Ito, et al.
Group Art Unit	1764
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	MAC-0113

Total Number of Pages in This Submission 4

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

- ☐ Fee Transmittal Form
- ☐ Fee Attached
- ☐ Amendment / Reply
- ☐ After Final
- ☐ Affidavits/declaration(s)
- ☐ Extension of Time Request
- ☐ Express Abandonment Request
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement
- ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
- ☐ Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application
- ☐ Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53

- ☐ Assignment Papers (for an Application)
- ☐ Drawing(s)
- ☐ Licensing-related Papers
- ☐ Petition
- ☐ Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application
- ☐ Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address
- ☐ Terminal Disclaimer
- ☐ Request for Refund
- ☐ CD, Number of CD(s) _____

- ☐ After Allowance Communication to Group
- ☐ Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
- ☐ Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
- ☐ Proprietary Information
- ☐ Status Letter
- ☐ Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):

Remarks

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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	James H. Takemoto, Registration No. 28,272
Signature	<i>James H. Takemoto</i>
Date	December 10, 2001

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on this date:

12/10/2001

Typed or printed name	Regina A. Tucker		
Signature	<i>Regina A. Tucker</i>	Date	December 10, 2001

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.